

April 3, 2007

Dear Member of the Water Supply Subcommittee and other BDPAC members:

The Bay Delta Public Advisory Committee (BDPAC) was established to provide advice on the CalFed program, and the Water Supply Subcommittee would like to fulfill that duty by providing specific advice on the surface water storage and Delta conveyance programs.

Our subcommittee rules state that membership on the subcommittee is open to all members of BDPAC, and given the importance of this issue, we hope that as many members of BDPAC as possible will join us.

We have set aside two days to consider these programs, so that the subcommittee members can consider all the projects in the programs, and recommend to the full BDPAC how these projects should be prioritized with respect to future funding by the state and federal agencies. We can either rank order these projects, or simply rank them high, medium or low priority. The committee will determine which system to use at the start of the process.

We recognize that ultimately the agencies will carry out the budget direction of Congress and the Legislature, but we hope that if BDPAC adopts a set of priorities within these programs, it will assist the agencies as they establish their own budget recommendations.

The process we will use is to hear presentations on each project, first a status report by the lead state or federal agency, and then (briefly) by proponents and opponents of the project. Then, Water Supply Subcommittee members will be asked to vote to set priorities with respect to future funding. We will not recommend that any projects be dropped, but we may add to the list of projects to be considered beyond Year 8 planning. Ideally, with some discussion, we can arrive at a committee consensus on priorities. If not, we will simply forward the vote to the full BDPAC.

On May 16, 2007 we will consider the five surface storage projects being reviewed by CalFed: Enlarged Shasta, North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage, In-Delta Storage, Enlarged Los Vaqueros and Upper San Joaquin River Basin Storage Investigations.

On June 6 we will consider the following Delta conveyance Projects:
SDIP and related facilities:

- Improved screening at Clifton Court and Tracy
- North Delta: improvements at Cross Channel, flood control, through Delta project
- Isolated conveyance

The committee also has the responsibility to oversee other programs such as groundwater storage, water use efficiency, water transfers, San Luis low point, EWA, Frank's Tract and the DMC-California Aqueduct intertie. If the process outlined above works out well, we will attempt to review these other projects in a similar way later this year.

Thank you for your participation in this important project. Please feel free to contact either of us if you have any questions. This item will be discussed at the April 11, 2007 Water Supply Subcommittee meeting. The meeting agenda can be found at:
<http://calwater.ca.gov/BDPAC/Subcommittees/WaterSupplySubcommittee2007.shtml>

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